



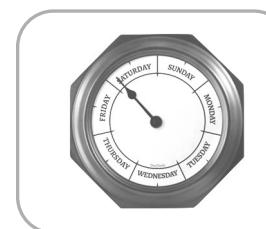
A serious dilemma faced the great rabbi of Prague, Rabbi Yechezkel Landau, author of the Responsa *Noda BiYehuda*. A kohen in the community asked him to officiate at his marriage to a divorcee. When he refused to do so on religious grounds, the man reported him to the Austrian Queen Maria Theresa who ordered the rabbi to perform the service or face serious punishment.

The rabbi thereupon informed the informant kohen that he would indeed officiate and arrangements for the wedding were made. As the couple stood under the chupah and the climactic moment arrived, the rabbi turned to the kohen and asked him to repeat after him word for word this marriage declaration: "You are betrothed to me according to the rule of Queen Maria Theresa." The guests broke into loud laughter and left the kohen and the divorcee to themselves. The brilliant rabbi of Prague thus remained faithful to his religion and no longer in danger from the Queen.

Hints & Answers* **HALACHA CHALLENGE:** The *Shulchan Aruch* (O.C. 250:1) answers our question: **ישכים בבוקר ביום ששי להכין צרכי שבת** - One should wake up early on a Friday morning to prepare whatever is needed for Shabbos. **RHYMES:** "reveal" **RIDDLE:** Aharon's staff ate the snakes of Egyptian magicians (see *Shemos* 7:12 with *peirush Rashi*) | *Menucha answers are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha.

Halacha Challenge

The Short Fridays Dilemma



"I can't believe it!" said Imma, "Candle lighting is in just one hour and I still need to make two more dishes for Shabbos!" Overhearing this, Abba grabbed an apron, put it on himself, and asked Imma, "How can I help?"

"Thank you!" said Imma, as she handed over to him a few potatoes and a peeler.

After observing this, their daughter Channa said, "Since we're always running late on Fridays, maybe we should cook Shabbos food on Thursdays."

"But then the food will not taste so fresh when we'll eat on Shabbos!" said her brother Binyamin.

"So what do you suggest? Rush into Shabbos every time?!" asked Channa.

"Yeah, that's actually kind of fun seeing all of us running around as the time gets close to shekiya," said Binyamin with a smile.

Elisheva looked at everyone and proposed, "Why don't we all just wake up early on Friday morning and do some preparations then?" But as she looked at everyone's facial expression she realized that her suggestion was not favored at all.

Question: Who offered the right solution: Channa, Binyamin or Elisheva?

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)



Parsha Pearls

וְאֶרְאָ אֶל־אֲבֹרָהָם אֶל־יַצְחָק וְאֶל־יַעֲקֹב...

And I revealed Myself to Avraham, to Yitzchok, and to Yaakov... (Shemos 6:3)

This verse has a commentary of Rashi which is one of the most puzzling ones in the entire Torah. After quoting the word וְאֶרְאָ - *And I revealed Myself*, Rashi comments: “To the Avos.” But the verse itself says “to Avraham, to Yitzchok, and to Yaakov” and everyone knows that these are our Avos! Why did Rashi need to make that comment?

Rashi is emphasizing that the revelations were granted to Avraham, Yitzchok, and Yaakov during their life times exclusively because they were the Avos - the forefathers of the future Klal Yisroel who transmit their spiritual attainments as an inheritance to all of their children. Thus, HaShem revealed Himself to the Avos for the purpose of making the awareness of HaShem a fundamental element in the make up of their descendants for all time.*

*[Based on “In the Garden Of The Torah” v.1 p.84]



Rhymes for Kids



”. וְהִזְכַּרְתִּי...וְהִצְלַתִּי...וְגַאֲלַתִּי...וְלִקְחַתִּי” (parshas Va'eira, Shemos 6:6-7)

Rashi (to Bamidbar 15:41) writes: *[Tzitzis is worn] on [a garment of] four corners...[This] corresponds to the Four Expressions of Redemption that were said in Egypt: “I will take you out...I will save you...I will redeem you...I will take you”*

My tzitzis has four corners
~ that's a big deal!
Four words of Hashem's love
~ they surely ____!



Riddle



I am not a person nor an animal, yet in this week's parsha I ate something. What am I?